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			R TO THE UNITED STATES	U.S. APPLICATION NO. (If known, see 37 C.F.R. 1.5)							
	DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US) CONCERNING A FILING UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371										
INT	INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED PCT/US00/26797 29 September 2000 1 October 1999										
		PC1/US00/26797	29 September 2000	1 October 1999							
ТІТІ	TITLE OF INVENTION COMPOUNDS FOR THE TREATMENT OF VIRAL-MEDIATED DISEASES										
ΔPE	APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US										
	APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US TAN et al										
App	Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information:										
1.	\boxtimes	This is a FIRST submission of	of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C	C. 371.							
2.		This is a SECOND or SUBS	EQUENT submission of items concerning	a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.							
3.	\boxtimes	This is an express request to begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. 371(f)). The submission must include items (5), (6), (9) and (21) indicated below.									
4.	\boxtimes		y the expiration of 19 months from the pric	prity date (Article 31).							
5.	_		ation as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)).								
	a.	· ·	uired only if not communicated by the Inter	national Bureau).							
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	C.	=	application was filed in the United States R	teceiving Office (BO/LIS)							
6.	σ.		tion of the International Application as filed	, ,							
J .	ш а.	is attached hereto.	non or the international Application as med	1 (63 6.3.6. 37 1(6)(2)).							
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7.		_	f the International Application under PCT A								
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	b.		ted by the International Bureau.								
	c.	have not been made; h	owever, the time limit for making such ame	endments has NOT expired.							
	d.	have not been made ar	nd will not be made.								
8.		An English language translat	tion of the amendments to the claims unde	er PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)).							
9.		An oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(4)).									
10.		A English language translation of the annexes of the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(5)).									
Items 11 To 20 below concern document(s) or information included:											
11.	\boxtimes	An Information Disclosure St	atement under 37 C.F.R. 1.97 and 1.98, w	/PTO-1449 Form, Int'l Search Report and References							
12.		An assignment document for	recording. A separate cover sheet in com	npliance with 37 C.F.R. 3.28 and 3.31 is included.							
13.	\boxtimes	A FIRST preliminary amendment.									
14.		A SECOND or SUBSEQUEN	IT preliminary amendment.								
15.		A substitute specification.									
16.		A change of power of attorne	ey and/or address letter.								
17.		- ·	-	CT Rule 13ter.2 and 35 U.S.C. 1.821-1.825.							
18.		A second copy of the published international application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).									
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20.		Other items or information.	3 3								

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a. A check in the amount of \$1650.00 to cover the above fees is enclosed. b. Please charge my Deposit Account No. 14-1140 in the amount of \$ to cover the above fees. A duplicate copy of this form is enclosed. c. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 14-1140. A duplicate copy of this form is enclosed. d. The entire content of the foreign application(s), referred to in this application is/are hereby incorporated by reference in this application.									
NOTE: Where an appropriate time limit under 37 C.F.R. 1.494 or 1.495 has not been met, a petition to revive (37 C.F.R. 1.137(a) or (b)) must be filed and granted to restore the application to pending status.									
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NIXON & VANDERHYE 1100 North Glebe Road									
Arlington, Virginia 22201	1-4714								
Telephone: (703) 816-4000 Mary J. Wilson									
MJW:tat				NAME					
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

TAN et al Atty. Ref.: 117-388

National Phase of Int'l Appln. No. PCT/US00/26797 Group:

International Filing Date: 29 September 2000 Examiner:

For: COMPOUNDS FOR THE TREATMENT OF VIRAL-MEDIATED DISEASES

* * * * * * * * * * * * * * *

April 1, 2002

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

In order to place the above-identified application in better condition for examination, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Page 1, below the title, insert the following new paragraph:

This application is a 371 of International Application No. PCT/US00/26797, filed September 29, 2000, which claims priority from Provisional Application No. 60/157,017, filed October 1, 1999, the entire content of which is incorporated herein by reference.

IN THE CLAIMS

Cancel claims 1-34 without prejudice and add the following new claims in lieu thereof.

- 35. (New) A method of treating a host infected with a virus of the Flaviviridae, Rhaboviridae or Paramyxoviridae family, which method comprises administering to the host an inhibitor of dihydroorotate dehydrogenase.
- 36. (New) A method according to claim 35, wherein the inhibitor is a compound of the formula (I):

$$A = \underbrace{a}_{N} \underbrace{\uparrow}_{R} (A)_{n}$$

$$\downarrow b \qquad R$$
(I)

wherein:

each A is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen, perhaloalkoxy, amino C_1 - C_8 alkyl, NO_2 , CN, SO_2CH_3 , C_1 - C_8 alkyl, C_1 - C_8 alkoxy, C_5 - C_7 cycloalkyl, C_3 - C_7 cycloalkenyl, aryl, aryloxy, C_1 - C_8 perhaloalkyl and Y; or two adjacent groups A on ring \underline{b} form, together with the phenyl ring to which they are attached, a naphthalene ring system;

R is cyclohexyl, phenoxy or benzoxy, or a phenyl ring which is unsubstituted or substituted by a group A as defined above; or

R and an adjacent group A on ring \underline{b} form, together with the phenyl ring to which they are attached, a naphthalene or phenanthrene ring system;

Y is selected from the group consisting of COOM, CONHR', SO₃M and hydrogen; M is selected from the group consisting of H, Li, Na, K and O.5 Ca; R' is C₁-C₁₀ alkyl;

n is 1 or 2; and

T is =N- or =C(Z)- wherein either:

- (i) Z is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, NH_2 , OH, C_1 - C_8 alkyl, C_3 - C_7 cycloalkyl, aryl and C_1 - C_6 perhaloalkyl, or
- (ii) Z is a bridging moiety selected from the group consisting of -V-W-(wherein V is CH₂ or S and W is CH₂, O, S or NH) and -(CH₂)₂ -C(=Z)- wherein Z is O or H₂, the said bridging moiety being attached to the ortho position of ring \underline{b} of the adjacent biphenyl group, thereby completing a ring.
- 37. (New) A method according to claim 36, wherein the inhibitor is a compound of formula (Ia):

$$A = \underbrace{\frac{a}{b}}_{N} A$$

$$\underbrace{\frac{c}{b}}_{A}$$

$$(Ia)$$

wherein:

each A is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen. halogen. amino C_1 , C_8 alkyl, NO_2 , CN, SO_2CH_3 , C_1 - C_8 alkyl, C_3 - C_7 cycloalkyl, aryl, C_1 - C_6 perhaloalkyl and Y;

Y is selected from the group consisting of COOM, CONHR' SO₃M and hydrogen; M is selected from the group consisting of H, Li, Na, K and O.5 Ca;

R' is C₁-C₁₀ alkyl; and

T is =N- or =C(Z)- wherein either:

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(i) Z is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, NH₂, OH, C₁-C₈ alkyl, C₁-C₇ cycloalkyl, aryl and C₁-C₈ perhaloalkyl, or

(ii) Z is a bridging moiety selected from the group consisting of -V-W-(wherein V is CH_2 or S and W is CH_2 , O. S or NH) and -(CH_2) $_2$ -C(=Z)- wherein Z is O or H_2 , the said bridging moiety being attached to the ortho position of ring \underline{b} of the adjacent biphenyl group, thereby completing a ring.

38. (New) A method according to claim 35, wherein the inhibitor is a compound of the formula (II):

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
R^{1} & \xrightarrow{\underline{a}} & R^{3} \\
\hline
 & \underline{b} & R^{5}
\end{array}$$
(II)

wherein

R1 is H, a halogen or OCF3;

R2 is H or C1-C6 alkyl;

R3 is H or OR0 wherein R6 is H or C1-C6 alkyl;

 R^4 is H or C_1 - C_6 alkyl; or R^4 and R^3 form, together with phenyl ring <u>b</u> to which they are attached, a naphthalene ring; and

R⁵ is cyclohexyl, phenyl or benzoxy, or a phenyl ring which is unsubstituted or substituted by halogen; or R⁴ and R⁵ form, together with phenyl ring b to which they are attached, a phenanthrene ring.

39. (New) A method according to claim 38, wherein the inhibitor is a compound of formula (IIb):

wherein M is H or Na.

40. (New) A method according to claim 35, wherein the inhibitor is a compound of formula (T):

$$A \xrightarrow{Y} R'$$

$$R''$$

$$R''$$

wherein A and Y are as defined above for formula (I);

R' is hydrogen and R" is a thiophene ring or a group of formula (i') or (ii'):

or R' and R" form, together with the carbon atoms (denoted "C") to which they are attached, a ring system of formula (iiii') or (iv'):

wherein R"' is H or halogen and R" is H or C1 - C6 alkoxy.

41. (New) A method according to claim 35, wherein the inhibitor is a compound of the formula (III):

$$\begin{array}{c|c} O & B \\ \hline & & \\ O & & \\ \hline & & \\ O & & \\ \end{array}$$

wherein:

each A^1 is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_1 - C_8 alkyl, C_1 - C_8 alkoxy, C_2 - C_8 alkenyl, C_2 - C_8 alkynyl, C_3 - C_7 cycloalkyl, halogen, unsubstituted aryl, X-substituted aryl, NO₂, CN, COOR, CONHR and NHR; X is selected from the group consisting of halogen, NO₂, C_1 - C_8 alkyl, aryl, fused aryl and COOR;

R is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and C_1 - C_8 alkyl; and B is selected from the group consisting of C_1 - C_8 alkyl, H, CF_3 and aryl which is unsubstituted or substituted by halogen, C_1 - C_8 alkoxy, C_1 - C_8 alkyl, NO_2 , aryl or fused

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aryl.

42. (New) A method to claim 41, wherein the inhibitor is a compound having the formula (IV):

43. (New) A method according to claim 35, wherein the inhibitor is a compound having the formula (V):

$$A^{2} = C X^{l_{2}}CX^{l_{2}}CX^{l_{2}} = C Z^{l}$$

$$B^{l_{1}} \qquad (V)$$

wherein:

 A^2 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_1 - C_8 alkyl, C_2 - C_8 alkynyl, C_3 - C_7 cycloalkyl, halogen, unsubstituted aryl, halogen-substituted aryl, fused aryl, NO₇, CN, NHR¹ and N(R¹)₇:

R1 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C1-C8 alkyl and OH;

X1 is hydrogen or halogen; and

B¹, Y¹ and Z¹ are each independently selected from hydrogen,

OH, C1-C8 alkyl, halogen, CN, NO2 and CF3.

44. (New) A method according to claim 35, wherein the inhibitor is a compound having the formula (VI):

$$\begin{array}{c} O \\ CH_2CH = C \\ CI \\ OH \end{array}$$

45. (New) A method according to claim 35, wherein the inhibitor is a compound having the formula (VII):

$$X^{2}$$

$$X^{2}$$

$$X^{2}$$

$$X^{2}$$

$$X^{2}$$

$$Y^{2}$$

$$Y^{2}$$

$$Y^{2}$$

$$Y^{2}$$

wherein:

each A^3 is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_1 - C_8 alkyl, C_1 - C_{10} alkoxy, halogen and $N(R^2)_3$:

B2 is a direct bond, -CH=CH- or -C=C-;

X2 is selected from the group consisting of O, S and NR2;

R2 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C1-C4 alkyl and aryl;

Y2 is selected from the group consisting of COOM1 and SO3M1; and

M1 is selected from the group consisting of H, Li, Ha, K and 0.5 Ca.

46. (New) A method according to claim 45, wherein the inhibitor is a compound having the formula (VIII):



- 47. (new) A method according to claim 35, wherein the virus is a flavivirus selected from the group consisting of hepatitis viruses, yellow fever virus, West Nile virus, kunjin virus, dengue virus, St. Louis encephalitis virus, Japanese encephalitis virus, Murray valley encephalitis virus and tick-borne encephalitis virus.
- 48. (New) A method according to claim 47, wherein the virus is a rhabdovirus selected from vesicular stomatitis virus and rabies virus, or is the paramyxovirus RSV.
- 49. (New) A method according to claim 35, wherein the medicament is for administration with an interferon.
- 50. (New) A method according to claim 35, wherein the medicament further comprises an interferon.
- 51. (New) A method according to claim 49, wherein the interferon is a human interferon
- 52. (New) A method according to claim 50, wherein the interferon is human interferon.
- 53. (New) A method according to claim 49, wherein ther interferon is selected from the group consisting of interferon α2, interferon α8 and interferon β.
- 54. (New) A method according to claim 50, wherein the interferon is selected from the group consisting of interferon α2, interferon α8 and interferon β.
- 55. (New) A method according to claim 49, wherein the interferon 1s human interferon a8 having a specific activity of from 0.3x10° to 3x10° IU per mg protein.

- 56. (New) A method according to claim 50, wherein the interferon is human interferon α8 having a specific activity of from 0.3×10° to 3×10° IU per mg protein.
- 57. (New) A method according to claim 49, wherein the interferon is human interferon β having a specific activity of from 2x108 to 8x108 per mg protein.
- 58. (New) A method according to claim 50, wherein the interferon is human interferon β having a specific activity of from 2x108 to 8x108 per mg protein.
- 59. (New) A method according to claim 49, wherein the inhibitor and the interferon are used in respective amounts which produce a synergistic effect.
- 60. (New) A method according to claim 50, where in the inhibitor and the interferon are used in respective amounts which produce a synergistic effect.
- 61. (New) A method according to claim 35, wherein the medicament is for use with an inhibitor of a second enzyme selected from inosine monophosphate dehydrogenase, guanosine monophosphate synthetase, cytidine triphosphate synthetase and S-adenosylhomocysteine hydrolase.
- 62. (New) A method according to claim 61, wherein the medicament further comprises the inhibitor of the said second enzyme.
- 63. (New) A method according to claim 61, wherein the inhibitor is mycophenolic acid, cyclopentenyl cytosine (CPE-C) or 3-deazaneplanocin A.
- 64. (New) A method according to claim 62, wherein the inhibitor is mycophenolic acid, cyclopentenyl cytosine (CPE-C) or 3-deazaneplanocin A.
- 65. (New) A method according to claim 61, where in the inhibitor of the second enzyme and the inhibitor of dihydrooratate dehydrogenase are used in respective amounts which produce a synergistic effect.
- 66. (New) A method according to claim 62, wherein the inhibitor of the second enzyme and the inhibitor of dihydrooratate dehydrogenase are used in respective amounts which produce a synergistic effect.
- 67. (New) A method according to claim 63, wherein the inhibitor of the second enzyme and the inhibitor of dihydrooratate dehydrogenase are used in respective amounts which produce a synergistic effect.
- 68. (New) A compound of formula (IIa):

$$F_3CO \xrightarrow{R^{22}} R^{33}$$
 (IIa)

wherein

M is selected from the group consisting of H, Li, Na, K and 0.5 Ca;

R22 is H or C1-C6 alkyl;

R33 is H or OR6 wherein R6 is H or C1-C6 alkyl;

R44 is H or C1-C6 alkyl; and

R55 is phenyl, cyclohexyl, phenoxy or benzoxy;

or a metabolite or prodrug precursor thereof.

- 69. (New) A compound according to claim 68, which is selected from:
- 2-(4-biphenylyl)-6-trifluoromethoxy-quinoline-4-carboxylic acid (compound I2K5);
- 2-(4-biphenylyl)-3-methyl-6-trifluoromethoxy-quinoline-4-carboxylic acid (compound IZK.55);
- 2-(4-cyclohexylphenyl)-6-trifluoromethoxy-quinoline-4-carboxylic acid (compound I2K46);
- 2-(4-benzyloxy-2-methoxy-3-methyl-phenyl)-6-trifluoromethoxy-quinoline-4-carboxylic acid (compound I2K51); and
- 2-(4-phenoxyphenyl)-6-trifluoromethoxy-quinoline-4-carboxylic acid (compound 12K52).
- 70. (New) A process for producing a compound of formula (IIa) as claimed in claim 68, which process comprises
- a) condensing a trifluoromethoxy-substituted isatin compound of the following formula (IX):

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with a ketone of formula (X):

wherein R^{22} , R^{33} , R^{44} and R^{55} are as defined in claim 60, in the presence of á base; and

- (b) if desired, converting a resulting compound of formula (IIa) in which M is H into a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof wherein M is Li. Na. K or 0.5 Ca.
- (New) An anti-flavivirus, anti-rhabdovirus or anti-paramyxovirus agent comprising an inhibitor of dihydroorotate dehydrogenase.
- 72. (New) Products containing an inhibitor of dihydroorotate dehydrogenase and an interferon as a combined preparation for simultaneous, separate or sequential use in treating an infection attributable to a virus of the Flaviviridae. Rhabdoviridae or Paramyxoviridae family.
- 73. (New) Products containing an inhibitor of dihydroorotate dehydrogenase and an inhibitor of a second enzyme selected from inosine monophosphate dehydrogenase, guanosine monophosphate synthetase, cytidine triphosphate synthetase and S-adenosylhomocysteine hydrolase as a combined preparation for simultaneous, separate or sequential use in treating an infection attributable to a virus of the Flaviviridae. Rhabdoviridae or Paramyxoviridae family.
- 74. (New) Products according to claim 73, which additionally contain an interferon.

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- A method for identifying an anti-flavivirus, anti-rhabdovirus or antiparamyxovirus agent, which method comprises:
- providing a test compound; (a)
- determining whether the test compound has activity as an inhibitor of (b) dihydroorotate dehydrogenase; and
- selecting the test compound as an anti-flavivirus, anti-rhabdovirus or anti-(c) paramyxovirus agent if it is shown to have activity in step (b).

REMARKS

Favorable consideration of this application and entry of the foregoing amendments are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

Reg. No. 32.955

MJW:tat

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Arlington, VA 22201-4714 Telephone: (703) 816-4000

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

TAN et al Atty. Ref.: 117-388

National Phase of Int'l Appln. No. PCT/US00/26797 Group:

International Filing Date: 29 September 2000 Examiner:

For: COMPOUNDS FOR THE TREATMENT OF VIRAL-MEDIATED DISEASES

May 8, 2002

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

SECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Kindly further preliminarily amend this application as follows:

IN THE TITLE

Please change the title to read as follows:

DIHYDROOROTATE DEHYDROGENASE INHIBITORS FOR THE TREATMENT OF VIRAL-MEDIATED DISEASES.

REMARKS

Favorable consideration of this application and entry of the foregoing amendments are respectfully requested.

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TÁN et al National Phase of Int'l Appln. No. PCT/US00/26797

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

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COMPOUNDS FOR THE TREATMENT OF VIRAL-MEDIATED DISEASES

Field of the Invention

5 This invention relates to the treatment of infections caused by viruses of the Flaviviridae, Rhabdoviridae and Paramyxoviridae families.

Background to the Invention

At present there is no effective treatment for chronic hepatitis C. So far,

human interferons have been used to treat patients with chronic hepatitis C. The
efficacy of this treatment is about 20%. Recently, Ribavirin has been used in
combination with interferon to treat patients with chronic hepatitis C. The combined
treatment efficacy is up to about 40%. However, the dosage of Ribavirin required is
high and there is accompanying red blood cell toxicity.

The search for effective drug(s) for hepatitis C is under the scrutiny of investigators worldwide. Most if not all the enzymes of hepatitis C and related viruses of the Flaviviridae family have been used as targets in the search for an antiviral drugs against hepatitis C. A major problem with the study of hepatitis C is a lack of *in vitro* cell-based and animal model systems. To date, there is no good replicative cell system to assay for activity against hepatitis C virus. The only animal model for hepatitis C is the chimpanzee. However, chronic hepatitis C infection is difficult to establish in chimpanzees. This fact further complicates the use of chimpanzees as an animal model system.

25 Summary of the Invention

"Surrogate" virus/host cell systems were used to search for antiviral compounds which can be used as antiviral drugs to treat patients with acute and chronic hepatitis C in particular, and flavivirus, rhabdovirus and paramyxovirus infections in general. Several families of compounds which are structural and biological analogues were selected for testing for their antiviral activities in human and monkey cells against three viruses of the Flaviviridae family (yellow fever,

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kunjin and dengue viruses), a virus of the Rhabdoviridae family (vesicular stomatitis virus; VSV) and a virus of the Paramyxoviridae family (respiratory syncytial virus; RSV). These are all RNA viruses that infect human and non-human primate cells.

It was found that the 6-fluoro-2-(2'-fluoro-1,1'-biphenyl-4-yl)-3-methyl-4'quinolinecarboxylic acid sodium salt (Brequinar) and other inhibitors of the enzyme
dihydroorotate dehydrogenase exhibited potent activity against the viruses tested.
Ribavirin was also tested. The dihydroorotate dehydrogenase inhibitors were always
more potent than, and indeed act synergistically in combination with, an interferon.
An inhibitor of dihydroorotate dehydrogenase can also be administered in
combination therapy with an inhibitor of a second enzyme selected from inosine
monophosphate dehydrogenase, guanosine monophosphate synthetase, cytidine
triphosphate synthetase and S-adenosylhomocysteine hydrolase, optionally in further
combination with an interferon, to provide a synergistic antiviral effect.

Accordingly, the present invention provides a method of treating a host infected with a virus of the Flaviviridae, Rhaboviridae or Paramyxoviridae family, which method comprises the step of administering to the host an inhibitor of dihydroorotate dehydrogenase.

The invention additionally provides:

- novel compounds which are structural analogues of Brequinar and their preparation;
 - use of an inhibitor of dihydroorotate dehydrogenase in the manufacture of a medicament for use in the treatment of an infection attributable to a virus of the Flaviviridae, Rhabdoviridae, or Paramyxoviridae family;
- an anti-flavivirus agent, anti-rhabdovirus or anti-paramyxovirus agent comprising an inhibitor of dihydroorotate dehydrogenase;
 - products containing an inhibitor of dihydroorotate dehydrogenase and an interferon as a combined preparation for simultaneous, separate or sequential use in treating an infection attributable to a virus of the
- 30 Flaviviridae, Rhabdoviridae or Paramyxoviridae family;
 - products containing an inhibitor of dihydroorotate dehydrogenase and an

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inhibitor of a second enzyme selected from inosine monophosphate dehydrogenase, guanosine monophosphate synthetase, cytidine triphosphate synthetase and S-adenosylhomocysteine hydrolase as a combined preparation for simultaneous, separate or sequential use in treating an infection attributable to a virus of the Flaviviridae, Rhabdoviridae or Paramyxoviridae family; and

A method for identifying an anti-flavivirus, anti-rhabdovirus or antiparamyxovirus agent, which method comprises testing a test compound for its ability to inhibit dihydroorotate dehydrogenase.

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Detailed Description of the Invention

Inhibitors of dihydroorotate dehydrogenase

Dihydroorotate dehydrogenase (DHO-DH, DHOD, EC 1.3.3.1) is the fourth enzyme in the *de novo* pyrimidine biosynthetic pathway. Any inhibitor of this enzyme is used in the present invention.

A technique for identifying inhibitors of dihydroorotate dehydrogenase using a computer algorithm is described in Biochemical and Biophysical Research Communications 223, 654-659 (1996) and in Biochemical Pharmacology vol 49, No. 7, pp 947-954 (1995). The technique involves the correlation of the biological activity of a given compound with the biological activity of known DHOD inhibitors such as dichloroallyl lawsone and Brequinar. The COMPARE computer algorithm may be used for the correlation (see J. Natl. Cancer Inst. 81, 1088-1092, 1989).

An *in vitro* assay for inhibitors of mouse liver dihydroorotate dehydrogenase is described in J. Biol. Chem. <u>270</u>, No. 38, pages 22467-22472 (1995). Mouse liver dihydroorotate dehydrogenase may be prepared as described in Biochem. J. (1998), 336, 299-303 (1998).

Inhibitors of dihydroorotate dehydrogenase are described, for example, by Douglas G. Batt in Exp. Opin. Ther. Patents (1999) 9 (1), 41-54, the contents of which are incorporated herein by reference.

The fact that inhibitors of dihydroorotate dehydrogenase have been found to

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have activity against certain classes of RNA virus offers a means of screening for new antiviral agents. Accordingly the invention provides a method ofor identifying an anti-flavivirus, anti-rhabdovirus or anti-paramyxovirus agent, which method comprises:

- 5 (a) providing a test compound;
 - determining whether the test compound has activity as an inhibitor of dihydroorotate dehydrogenase; and
 - selecting the test compound as an anti-flavivirus, anti-rhabdovirus or anti-paramyxovirus agent if it is shown to have activity in step (b).
- 10 The candidate test compounds may be tested for dihydroorotate dehydrogenase inhibitory activity by any known technique, such as those mentioned above.

Four classes of dihydroorotate dehydrogenase inhibitors are preferred for use in the present invention. These are:

15 - compounds of the formula (I):

$$A = \underbrace{\frac{a}{a}}_{N} \underbrace{\frac{b}{b}}_{R} (A)_{n}$$

wherein:

each A is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen, perhaloalkoxy, amino C_1 - C_1 alkyl, NO_2 , CN, SO_2CH_3 , C_1 - C_1 alkyl, C_1 - C_2 alkyl, C_1 - C_3 alkoxy, C_3 - C_7 cycloalkyl, C_3 - C_7 cycloalkenyl, aryloxy, C_1 - C_6 perhaloalkyl and Y; or two adjacent groups A on ring \underline{b} form, together with the phenyl ring to which they are attached, a naphthalene ring system;

R is cyclohexyl, phenoxy or benzoxy, or a phenyl ring which is unsubstituted or

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substituted by a group A as defined above; or

R and an adjacent group A on ring \underline{b} form, together with the phenyl ring to which they are attached, a naphthalene or phenanthrene ring system;

Y is selected from the group consisting of COOM, CONHR', SO₃M and hydrogen;

5 M is selected from the group consisting of H, Li, Na, K and O.5 Ca;

$$R'$$
 is C_1 - C_{10} alkyl;

n is 1 or 2; and

T is =N- or =C(Z)- wherein either:

- (i) Z is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, NH₂, OH, C₁-C₈
- 10 alkyl, C3-C7 cycloalkyl, aryl and C1-C6 perhaloalkyl, or
 - (ii) Z is a bridging moiety selected from the group consisting of -V-W-(wherein V is CH_2 or S and W is CH_2 , O, S or NH) and -(CH_2)₂ -C(=Z)- wherein Z is O or H_2 , the said bridging moiety being attached to the ortho position of ring \underline{b} of the adjacent biphenyl group, thereby completing a ring;

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- compounds of formula (I'):

$$A \xrightarrow{Y} R'$$

$$R''$$

$$R''$$

wherein A and Y are as defined above for formula (I);

R' is hydrogen and R" is a thiophene ring or a group of formula (i') or (ii'):

(i')

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or R' and R" form, together with the carbon atoms (denoted "C") to which they are attached, a ring system of formula (iii') or (iv'):

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wherein R"' is H or halogen and Riv is H or C1 - C6 alkoxy;

15 - compounds of formula (III):

$$A \stackrel{\underline{a}}{=} \begin{array}{c} O \\ N \\ N \\ \end{array}$$

wherein:

each A^1 is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_1 - C_8 alkyl, C_1 - C_8 alkeyl, C_2 - C_8 alkeyl, C_2 - C_8 alkeyl, C_2 - C_8 alkeyl, C_2 - C_9 alkeyl, C_3 - C_7 cycloalkyl, halogen,

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unsubstituted aryl, X-substituted aryl, NO₂, CN, COOR, CONHR and NHR; X is selected from the group consisting of halogen, NO₂, C₁-C₈ alkyl, aryl, fused aryl

X is selected from the group consisting of halogen, NO₂, C₁-C₈ alkyl, aryl, fused ary and COOR;

R is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and C1-C8 alkyl; and

- 5 B is selected from the group consisting of C₁-C₈ alkyl, H, CF₃ and aryl which is unsubstituted or substituted by halogen, C₁-C₈ alkoxy, C₁-C₈ alkyl, NO₂, aryl or fused aryl:
 - compounds of the formula (V):

$$A^{2} \xrightarrow{O} CX^{l_{2}CX^{l}} = CZ^{l}$$

$$(V)$$

10 wherein:

A² is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C₁-C₈ alky1, C₂-C₈ alkenyl, C₂-C₈ alkynyl, C₃-C₇ cycloalkyl, halogen, unsubstituted aryl, halogen-substituted aryl, fused aryl, NO₂, CN, NHR¹ and N(R¹);

R1 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen,, C1-C8 alkyl and OH;

- 15 X^1 is hydrogen or halogen; and
 - B^{1} , Y^{1} and Z^{1} are each independently selected from hydrogen, OH, C_{1} – C_{8} alkyl, halogen, CN, NO₂ and CF₃; and
 - compounds of the formula (VII):

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$$X^{2} \xrightarrow{A^{3}} B^{2} \xrightarrow{A^{3}} X^{2}$$

$$(VII)$$

wherein:

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each A³ is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C₁-C₈ alkyl, C₁-C₁₀ alkoxy, halogen and N(R²)₇;

B2 is a direct bond, -CH=CH- or -C=C-;

X2 is selected from the group consisting of O, S and NR2;

R² is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C₁-C₄ alkyl and aryl:

Y2 is selected from the group consisting of COOM1 and SO3M1; and

M1 is selected from the group consisting of H, Li, Na, K and 0.5 Ca.

A halogen atom may be fluoro, chloro, bromo or iodo. A C₁-C₈ alkyl group is suitably a C₁-C₄ alkyl group. A C₁-C₄ alkyl group is typically methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl or butyl. A C₃-C₇ cycloalkenyl group is typically cyclohexenyl. A C₃-C₇ cycloalkyl group is typically a cyclopentyl or cyclohexyl group. A C₁-C₆ perhaloalkyl group may be a C₁-C₄ perhaloalkyl group. The halo atom may be chloro or fluoro. A particularly suitable perhaloalkyl group is trifluoromethyl.

An aryl group is typically a phenyl. A C_2 - C_8 alkenyl group is suitably a C_2 - C_4 alkenyl group. A C_2 - C_8 alkynyl group is suitably a C_2 - C_4 alkynyl group. Fused aryl is generally naphthyl. A C_1 - C_{10} alkoxy group is preferably a C_1 - C_6 alkoxy group, for example a C_1 - C_4 alkoxy group such as methoxy or ethoxy.

Perhaloalkoxy is, for example, OCF₃, OCCl₃ or OCBr₃, Preferably it is OCF₃. Aryloxy is, for example, phenoxy or benzyloxy.

The compounds of formula (I) are known and may be prepared by published methods or by submitting compounds produced by the published methods to routine synthetic modifications and interconversion which are well known in organic chemistry. Literature references for many of the published methods are quoted in the paper by Douglas G. Batt cited above. For instance, compounds of formula (I) in

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which T is =C(Z)- may be prepared as described in US-A-4680299. Compounds of formula (I) in which T is =N- may be prepared as described in US-A-4639454. Compounds of formula (I) in which Z is a bridging moiety as defined above may be prepared as described in US-A-4918077, US-A-5002954, WO9506640, US-A-5371225, EP-A-721942, JP10231289, Organ Biol. (1997) 4(2): 43-48 and 49-57, JP-6306079-A2 and 216th ACS Meeting, Boston USA (1998) ORGN 132. Compounds of formula (I') may be prepared using the same synthetic strategy as that described in US-A-4680299.

Preferred compounds of formula (I) are those in which:

each A is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen (preferably F) amino C₁-C₈ alkyl (preferably NH₂(CH₂)-), C₁-C₈ alkyl (preferably CH₃) and C₁-C₆ perhaloalkyl (preferably CF₃);

Y is selected from the group consisting of COOM and CONHR' wherein M is as defined above and R' is C_5 - C_{10} alkyl, preferably octyl;

15 T is =C(Z)- wherein

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- (i) Z is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_1 - C_8 alkyl (preferably CH₃), NH₂ and OH, or
- (ii) Z is a bridging moiety as defined above selected from the group consisting of -(CH₂)-, -(CH₂)-, -SCH₂-, -CH₂O, -CH₂S-, -CH₂NH- and -(CH₂)-C(=O)-.

In formula (I) the substituent A in ring \underline{a} is preferably OCF₃, halogen (most preferably F) or NH₂(CH₂)₂-, preferably bonded at position 6 of the quinoline ring system. The substituent A in ring \underline{b} is preferably hydrogen.

Examples of compounds of formula (I) include those of formula (Ia):

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wherein:

each A is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen, amino C₁.C₈ alkyl, NO₂, CN, SO₂CH₃, C₁-C₈ alkyl, C₂-C₇ cycloalkyl, aryl, C₁-C₆

15 perhaloalkyl and Y:

Y is selected from the group consisting of COOM, CONHR' SO₃M and hydrogen; M is selected from the group consisting of H, Li, Na, K and O.5 Ca; R' is C₁-C₁₀ alkyl; and

T is =N- or =C(Z)- wherein either:

- (i) Z is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, NH₂, OH, C₁-C₈ alkyl, C₃-C₇ cycloalkyl, aryl and C₁-C₆ perhaloalkyl, or
- (ii) Z is a bridging moiety selected from the group consisting of -V-W-(wherein V is CH₂ or S and W is CH₂, O, S or NH) and -(CH₂)₂ -C(=Z)- wherein Z is O or H₂, the said bridging moiety being attached to the ortho position of ring b of the adjacent biphenyl group, thereby completing a ring.

The substituent A in ring \underline{c} of formula (Ia) is preferably hydrogen or orthohalogen (most preferably ortho-F).

Amongst preferred compounds of formula (I) are those of formula (II):

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COOM
$$\begin{array}{c|c}
R^{1} & & \\
\hline
\underline{a} & & \\
N & & \\
\hline
\underline{b} & & \\
R^{5}
\end{array}$$
(II)

10 wherein

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R1 is H, a halogen or OCF3;

M is as defined above;

R2 is H or C1-C6 alkyl;

R3 is H or OR6 wherein R6 is H or C1-C6 alkyl;

15 R⁴ is H or C₁-C₆ alkyl; or R³ and R⁴ form, together with phenyl ring b to which they are attached, a naphthalene ring; and

 R^5 is cyclohexyl, phenoxy or benzoxy, or a phenyl ring which is unsubstituted or substituted by halogen; or R^4 and R^5 form, together with phenyl ring \underline{b} to which they are attached, a phenanthrene ring.

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Substitution patterns of specific compounds of formula (II) are as follows:

R1	M	R ²	R³	R ⁴	R ⁵	Compound
F	Н	CH ₃	Н	Н	H 2-fluoro- phenyl	
F	н	н	Н	Н	phenyl	13K5
F	Н	CH ₃	Н	Н	phenyl	I3K55
F	Н	Н	Н	Н	cyclohexyl	I3K46
F	Н	Н	Н	Н	phenoxy	I3K52
F	Н	Н	ОН	СН,	benzoxy	13K53
Н	Н	Н	Н	Н	phenoxy	I1K52

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Н	Н	Н	Н	Н	cyclohexyl	I1K46
Н	Н	Н	ОН	СН3	benzoxy	I1K53
Н	Н	CH ₃	Н	Н	phenyl	I1K55
OCF ₃	Н	Н	Н	Н	phenyl	I2K5
F	Н	Н	н	form with riphenanthrer formula:	13K4	
F	Н	Н	form with ring <u>b</u> a naphthalene ring		F	I3K36
OCF ₃	Н	Н	н н		cyclohexyl	I2K46
OCF ₃	Н	СН3	н н		phenyl	I2K55
OCF ₃	Н	Н	OCH ₃	CH ₃	benzoxy	I2K51
OCF ₃	Н	Н	н н		phenoxy	I2K52
F	н	Н	OCH ₃	CH ₃	benzoxy	I3K51
F	н	н	form with ring <u>b</u> a naphthalene ring		н	I3K6

Especially preferred is the sodium salt of Brequinar, which has the formula

15 (IIb):

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Brequinar can be prepared as described in US-A-4680299 (Example 28).

Some of the compounds of formula (II) are novel. Accordingly, the invention further provides a compound of formula (IIa)

wherein

5 M is selected from the group consisting of H, Li, Na, K and 0.5 Ca;

R22 is H or C1-C6 alkyl;

R33 is H or OR6 wherein R6 is H or C1-C6 alkyl;

R44 is H or C1-C6 alkyl; and

 R^{55} is phenyl, cyclohexyl, phenoxy or benzoxy.

10 Preferred examples of the compounds of formula (IIa) are:

2-(4-biphenylyl)-6-trifluoromethoxy-quinoline-4-carboxylic acid (compound I2K5);

2-(4-biphenylyl)-3-methyl-6-trifluoromethoxy-quinoline-4-carboxylic acid

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(compound I2K55);

2-(4-cyclohexylphenyl)-6-trifluoromethoxy-quinoline-4-carboxylic acid (compound 12K46);

2-(4-benzyloxy-2-methoxy-3-methyl-phenyl)-6-trifluoromethoxy-quinoline-4-5 carboxylic acid (compound I2K51); and

2-(4-phenoxyphenyl)-6-trifluoromethoxy-quinoline-4-carboxylic acid (compound I2K52).

The compounds of formula (II), including the novel compounds of formula (IIa), may be prepared by the synthetic route described in US-A-4680299 mentioned above. This involves the Pfitzinger reaction, whereby an appropriately substituted isatin is condensed with an appropriately substituted ketone (J. Org. Chem. 18, 1209, 1953).

Accordingly, the invention further provides a process for producing a compound of formula (IIa) as defined above, which process comprises

 a) condensing the trifluoromethoxy-substituted isatin compound of the following formula (IX):

25 with a ketone of formula (X):

$$R^{22}CH_2$$
 R^{44} R^{55} R^{45}

wherein R22, R33, R44 and R55 are as defined above for formula (IIa), in the presence

of a base; and

- (b) if desired, converting a resulting compound of formula (IIa) in which M is H into a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof wherein M is Li, Na, K or 0.5 Ca.
- The base used in step (a) may be an inorganic base or an organic base.

 Preferred bases include potassium hydroxide and sodium hydroxide. The reaction is generally conducted in a solvent. The solvent is preferably ethanol.

Preferred compounds of formula (I') have the following substitution patterns:

10	Α	Y	R'	k' R''		
	6-F	соон	Н	formula (i')		
	6-OCF ₃	СООН	formula (iv') wherein Riv is methoxy		I2K42	
	6-OCF ₃	СООН	formula (iii') w	I2K43		
	6-F	СООН	formula (iv') wherein Riv is methoxy		I3K42	
15	6-OCF ₃	СООН	CH ₃	thiophen-2-yl	I2K20	
	6-F	СООН	formula (iii') wherein R''' is F		I3K43	
	н	СООН	H formula (i')		I1K44	

Preferred compounds of formula (III) are those in which:

- 20 each A¹ is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen, C₁-C₈ alkyl and C₁-C₈ alkoxy; and
 - B is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_1 - C_8 alkyl, phenyl and benzyl, the said phenyl and benzyl being unsubstituted or substituted by halogen (preferably Cl or Br), C_1 - C_8 alkoxy (preferably C_1 - C_4 alkoxy such as OCH₃) or C_1 - C_8 alkyl
- 25 (preferably C₁-C₄ alkyl such as CH₃).

When B is substituted phenyl or benzyl as defined above, the substituent is preferably at position 4 of the phenyl ring. The group A^1 in ring \underline{a} is preferably H. The group A^1 in ring \underline{b} is preferably H, or it is para- C_1 - C_3 alkoxy or para-halogen

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(preferably Cl or Br).

Especially preferred is 1-(p-bromophenyl)-2-methyl-1H-naphth[2,3-d]imidazole-4,9-dione (BNID) which has the formula (IV):

The compounds of formula (III) may be prepared as described in J. Med. Chem. 1996, 39, 1447-1451, or by submitting compounds produced as described in this document to routine synthetic modifications and interconversion which are well known in organic chemistry. BNID can be prepared as described in J. Med. Chem. 1964, 7, 362-364.

Preferred compounds of formula (V) are those in which A^2 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_1 - C_4 alkyl (preferably C_1 - C_4 alkyl such as CH_3) and halogen;

B is hydrogen or OH;

X1 is hydrogen; and

Y¹ and Z¹ are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen (preferably Cl) and C₁-C₂ alkyl (preferably C₁-C₄ alkyl such as CH₃).

Especially preferred is dichloroallyl lawsone which has the formula (VI):

The compounds of formula (V) may be prepared as described in US-A-3655699 or WO9106863, or by submitting compounds produced as described in these documents to routine synthetic modifications and interconversions which are well known in organic chemistry. Dichloroallyl lawsone can be prepared as WO 01/24785 PCT/US00/26797

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described in US-A-3655699.

Preferred compounds of formula (VII) are those in which each A³ is hydrogen or C₁-C₁₀ alkoxy (preferably C₁-C₆ alkoxy such as methoxy); B² is a direct bond:

5 X² is NR² wherein R² is hydrogen or C₁-C₄ alkyl; and Y² is COOH.

Preferably each A^3 in formula (VII) is positioned meta to the linking group B^2 , and each Y^2 is positioned ortho to the linking group X^2 .

Especially preferred is 2,2'-[3,3'-dimethoxy[1,1'-biphenyl]-4,4'-diyl)diiminolbis-benzoic acid (redoxal) which has the formula (VIII):

Redoxal is described in Zhur. Anal. Khim. 15, pp 671-675, 1960 and Chemical
Abstracts 1961 vol. 5, 18447b. Other compounds of formula (VII) may be prepared
by routine synthetic modifications and interconversion of compounds prepared in this
reference.

Interferons

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The interferon for use in the present invention may be an interferon α , such as interferon $\alpha 2$ or $\alpha 8$, or interferon β . The term "interferon" includes fragments which have interferon activity and mutant forms of an interferon which retain interferon activity. For example, the sequence of an interferon α or β may have been modified to enhance activity or stability as reported in US-A-5582824, US-A-5593667 or US-A-5594107.

The interferon may have been purified from natural sources or may be a recombinant interferon. The species of interferon is generally the same as the host

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species to which the interferon is administered. The invention is particularly applicable to the treatment of flavivirus infections in humans. Preferably therefore a human interferon such as human interferon $\alpha 2$ or $\alpha 8$ or human interferon β is used.

The interferon α8, particularly the human interferon α8, typically has a specific activity of more than 0.3×10°, generally from 0.3×10° to 3×10° and preferably from 0.5×10° to 3×10°, IU per mg protein. The human interferon β typically has a specific activity of from 4×10⁸ to 8×10⁸, preferably from 4.8×10⁸ to 6.4×10⁸, IU per mg protein. Interferon α and interferon β specific activities are determined according to reference standards MRC 69/19 and Gb-23-902-531 respectively. Specific activity is determined according to a modification of the method of Armstrong, Applied Microbiology 21, 723, 1971, in which 0.2 μg/ml of actinomycin D is included in the viral challenge and the viral induced cytopathic effect is read directly.

The interferon such as the interferon α2 or α8 or the interferon β is preferably

15 obtainable by the methodology of WO 96/30531. The interferon is thus obtainable

by a process comprising culturing mammalian cells transfected with a nucleic acid

vector comprising:

 a coding sequence which encodes the interferon and which is operably linked to a promoter capable of directing expression of the coding sequence in mammalian cells in the presence of a heavy metal ion;

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- (ii) a first selectable marker sequence which comprises a metallothionein gene and which is operably linked to a promoter capable of directing expression of the metallothionein gene in the cells in the presence of a heavy metal ion; and
- 25 (iii) a second selectable marker sequence which comprises a neo gene and which is operably linked to a promoter capable of directing expression of the neo gene in the cells:

unless conditions that allow expression of the coding sequence; and recovering the interferon thus produced.

30 The transfected mammalian cells may be cells of a human or animal cell line.
They may be BHK, COS, Vero, human fibroblastoid such as CIO, HeLa, or human

lymphoblastoid cells or cells of a human tumour cell line. Preferably, however, the cells are CHO cells, particularly wild-type CHO cells.

Desirably, transfected cells will have all or part of such a vector integrated into their genomes. Such cells are preferred because they give stable expression of 5 the coding sequence contained in the vector. Preferably, one or more copies of the entire vector will be integrated, with cells having multiple integrated copies of the vector, for example from 20 to 100 copies or more, being particularly preferred because these cells give a high stable level of expression of the coding sequence contained in the vector.

However, cells having less than complete sections of the vectors integrated into their genomes can be employed if they are functionally equivalent to cells having the entire vector integrated into their genomes, in the sense that the integrated sections of the vector enable the cell to express the coding sequence and to be selected for by the use of heavy metals. Thus, cells exhibiting partial integration of a 15 vector may be employed if the integrated element or elements include the coding sequence operably linked to its associated promoter and the metallothionein marker sequence operably linked to its associated promoter.

Any promoter capable of enhancing expression in a mammalian cell in the presence of a heavy metal ion such as Cd2+, Cu2+ and Zn2+ may be operably linked to the interferon coding sequence. A suitable promoter is a metallothionein gene promoter. The mouse metallothionein gene I (mMT1) promoter is preferred.

Suitable promoter/enhancer combinations for the coding sequence include the mMT1 promoter flanked upstream with a mouse sarcoma virus (MSV) enhancer (MSV-mMT1) and a Rous sarcoma virus (RSV) enhancer upstream of a mouse mammary tumour virus (MMTV) promoter. MSV-mMT1 is preferred.

As far as the first selectable marker sequence is concerned, any promoter capable of enhancing expression in a mammalian cell in the presence of a heavy metal ion such as Cd2+, Cu2+ and Zn2+ may be operably linked to the metallothionein gene such as a human metallothionein gene. Preferably, the marker sequence gene is a human metallothionein gene, such as the human metallothionein gene IIA, which has its own promoter.

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The second selectable marker sequence is a *neo* gene. More than one type of this gene exists in nature: any specific *neo* gene can be used in a vector of the invention. One preferred *neo* gene is the *E.coli neo* gene.

The promoter for the *neo* gene is capable of directing expression of the gene in a mammalian cell. Suitable promoters are the cytomegalovirus (CMV) early promoter, the SV40 promoter, the mouse mammary tumour virus promoter, the human elongation factor 1 α -P promoter (EF-1 α -P), the SR α promoter and a metallothionein gene promoter such as mMT1. The promoter may also be capable of expressing the *neo* gene in bacteria such as *E.coli* in which a vector may be constructed.

The interferon coding sequence (i) and the marker sequences (ii) and (iii) are thus each operably linked to a promoter capable of directing expression of the relevant sequence. The term "operably linked" refers to a juxtaposition wherein the promoter and the coding/marker sequence are in a relationship permitting the coding/marker sequence to be expressed under the control of the promoter. Thus, there may be elements such as 5' non-coding sequence between the promoter and coding/marker sequence. Such sequences can be included in the construct if they enhance or do not impair the correct control of the coding/marker sequence by the promoter.

The vector may be a DNA or RNA vector, preferably a DNA vector.

Typically, the vector is a plasmid. Each of the sequences (i) to (iii) will typically be associated with other elements that control their expression. In relation to each sequence, the following elements are generally present, usually in a 5' to 3' arrangement: a promoter for directing expression of the sequence and optionally a regulator of the promoter, a translational start codon, the coding/marker sequence, a polyadenylation signal and a transcriptional terminator.

Further, the vector typically comprises one or more origins of replication, for example a bacterial origin of replication, such as the pBR322 origin, that allows replication in bacterial cells. Alternatively or additionally, one or more eukaryotic origins of replication may be included in the vector so that replication is possible in, for example yeast cells and/or mammalian cells.

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The vector may also comprise one or more introns or other non-coding sequences 3' or 5' to the coding sequence or to one or more of the marker sequences. Such non-coding sequences may be derived from any organism, or may be synthetic in nature. Thus, they may have any sequence. Such sequences may be included if they enhance or do not impair correct expression of the coding sequence or marker sequences.

The transfected cells are typically cultured in the presence of a heavy metal ion selected from $Cd^{2\epsilon}$, $Cu^{2\epsilon}$ and $Zn^{2\epsilon}$, particularly in an amount which is not toxic to the cells. That can lead to higher expression of the desired interferon. The concentration of the heavy metal ion in the culture medium is typically from 100 to 200 μ M. Cells may therefore be cultured in the presence of from 100 to 200 μ M of a heavy metal ion selected from $Cd^{2\epsilon}$, $Cu^{2\epsilon}$ and $Zn^{2\epsilon}$, for example from 130 to 170 μ M of the heavy metal ion. A useful concentration is about 150 μ M, particularly when the heavy metal ion is $Zn^{2\epsilon}$.

The interferon that is produced may be recovered by any suitable means and the method of recovery may vary depending on, for example, the type of cells employed and the culture conditions that have been used. Desirably, the interferon produced will be purified after recovery. Substantially pure interferon can thus be obtained.

The human β -interferon provided by WO 96/30531 has a high degree of sialylation. Like natural human β -interferon produced by primary diploid human fibroblasts, it is well glycosylated. However, it has a higher bioavailability than the natural β -interferon or recombinant β -interferon produced in E-coli (betaseron).

The higher bioavailability of the β -interferon can be characterised. When 1.5 \times 10⁶ IU of the interferon is injected subcutaneously into the back of a rabbit of about 2 kg: (a) \geq 128 IU/ml of the interferon is detectable in the serum of the rabbit after 1 hour, and/or (b) \geq 64 IU/ml of the interferon is detectable in the serum of the rabbit after 5 hours.

The maximum level of interferon is typically observed after 1 hour.

According to (a), therefore, 128 to 256 IU/ml such as 140 to 190 IU/ml of the interferon may be detectable in the rabbit serum after 1 hour. After 5 hours according

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to (b), ≥ 70 IU/ml such as ≥ 80 IU/ml of the interferon may be detectable in the rabbit serum. Typically according to (b), an amount of interferon in the range of 64 to 128 IU/ml such as 80 to 110 IU/ml can be detected.

Additionally or alternatively, the human interferon β can be characterised by its specific activity. It can have a specific activity from 4.8 x 10⁸ to 6.4 x 10⁸ IU per mg equivalent of bovine serum albumin protein, as noted above. The specific activity may be from 5×10^8 to 6×10^8 , for example from 5.2×10^8 to 5.8×10^8 such as from 5.3×10^8 to 5.5×10^8 , IU per mg equivalent of bovine serum albumin protein.

The human interferon $\boldsymbol{\beta}$ may also be characterised by one or more of the following properties:

- The interferon β typically has an apparent molecular weight of 26,300
 as determined by 15% sodium dodecyl sulphate-polyacrylamide gel
 electrophoresis (SDS-PAGE).
- When injected as a neat intravenous bolus into a rabbit, the half life of the interferon is typically in the range of from 12 to 15 min such as about 13½ min. The bolus is injected into the rabbit ear vein and blood samples are withdrawn from the rabbit ear artery. Rabbit serum is assayed for the antiviral activity of the interferon according to the modification of the method of Armstrong (1971).
 - 3. The antiviral activity of the interferon in a human hepatoblastoma cell line (HepG2) is at least equal to and, typically, about 1.5 times the activity of natural interferon β from primary diploid human fibroblast cells. The interferon is also about 2.2 times more effective than betaseron in protecting Hep2 cells against a viral challenge. Antiviral activity is again determined according to the modified method of Armstrong (1971). Actinomycin D was omitted in the antiviral determination in HepG2 cells.

The oligosaccharides associated with the interferon β of the invention may 30 also characterise the interferon β . The interferon β carries oligosaccharides which can be characterised by one or more of the following features:

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- Neutral (no acidic substituents): 5 to 15%, preferably about 10% or lower.
 - Acidic: 95 to 85%, preferably about 90% or higher.
- The total desialylated oligosaccharide pool is heterogeneous with at
 least six distinct structural components present in the pool.
 - Matrix-Assisted Laser Desorption Ionisation Time of Flight (MALDI-TOF) mass spectrometry and high resolution gel permeation chromatography data are summarised as follows:

10

Mass detected	Composition	Calculated Mass	gu equivalent
1786.2	5Hex, 4HexNAc, 1 2AB, Na	1782	11.1
1929.9	5Hex,1dHex, 4HexNAc, 1 2AB, Na	1928	12.2
2295.5	6Hex, 1dHex, 5HexNAc 1 2AB, Na	2293	14.5
2660.1	7Hex, 1dHex, 6HexNAc 1 2AB, Na	2658	17.6
3019.1	8Hex, 1dHex, 7HexNAc, 1 2AB, Na	3023	20.7

15

The carbohydrate moiety of the human interferon β of WO 96/30531 consists

of bi-, tri- and tetra-antennary complex type N-linked oligosaccharides. These
oligosaccharides contain repeating lactosamine(s). About 20 to 50%, for example 20
to 30%, 30 to 40% or 35 to 50%, of the oligosaccharides are bi-antennary
oligosaccharides. About 30 to 65%, for example from 40 to 60% or 50 to 60%, of
the oligosaccharides are tri-antennary oligosaccharides. About 2 to 15%, for
example from 2 to 8%, 4 to 10% or 5 to 15%, of the oligosaccharides are tetra-

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antennary oligosaccharides. Percentages are calculated by weight of total analysable oligosaccharide content.

Inhibitors of the second enzyme

5

Compounds which are inhibitors of inosine monophosphate dehydrogenase. guanosine monophosphate synthetase, cytidine triphosphate synthetase and Sadenosylhomocysteine hydrolase have been reported in WO 00/50064 (the contents of which are incorporated herein by reference) to have anti-viral activity against viruses of the Flaviviridae and Rhabdoviridae families. Examples of these 10 compounds include 5-membered carbocyclic nucleosides and mycophenolic acid compounds such as those described below.

Some of these antiviral compounds have been tested as inhibitors of dihydroorotate dehydrogenase and found to be inactive. This indicates that (a) the replication of flaviviruses, rhabdoviruses and paramyxoviruses in cells involves more than the inhibition of dihydroorotate dehydrogenase, and (b) dihydroorotate dehydrogenase is only one of several nucleotide synthesis enzymes necessary for viral replication.

This finding offers an opportunity for combination therapy whereby infections attributable to viruses of the Flaviviridae, Rhabdoviridae and Paramyxoviridae families may be treated using a dihydroorotate dehydrogenase inhibitor and an inhibitor of a second enzyme selected from guanosine monophosphate dehydrogenase, guanosine monophosphate synthetase, cytidine triphosphate synthetase and S-adenosylhomocysteine hydrolase. If desired the two inhibitors may be used in combination with an interferon. The strategy of using 25 combination therapy addresses the problem of multidrug resistance which typically arises when a single agent is used to treat a disease or disorder.

The 5-membered carbocyclic nucleoside may have the following formula (XI):

20

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wherein B is selected from the group consisting of purines, pyrimidines and five- or six-membered agylcones, R2 and R3 are independently selected from the group 10 consisting of H, halogen, OH, O-acyl, O-aryl and O-silyl, and R₁ is as defined for R₂ and R3 or is O-phosphate, or a pharmaceutically acceptable metabolite, metabolite derivative or salt thereof.

Preferred compounds of formula (XI) are those in which B denotes one of the following groups (i) to (viii):

20 (i)
$$R_{25}$$
 R_{25} $R_{$

5

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wherein R25 is Cl or NH2 and R26 is H, CH3, CF3, F, Cl, Br or I.

The 5-membered carbocyclic nucleosides of formula (XI) are known compounds and may be synthesised by published procedures or by analogy with 5 published procedures. For instance the synthesis of (-)-neplanocin A is described by Arita et al in J.Am. Chem. Soc. (1983), 105 (12), 4049-4055.

The synthesis of other suitable cyclopentenyl carbocyclic nucleosides is described in US-A-4975434, the contents of which are incorporated herein by reference. Specific nucleosides are listed in that patent.

10 The substitution patterns of preferred compounds of formula (XI) are shown in the Table below. A particularly preferred compound is cyclopentenyl cytidine (CPE-C).

Substitution patterns within formula (XI)

15

	R ₁	R ₂	R ₃	Formula of Nu	Compound
	ОН	ОН	ОН	(ii) wherein R ₂₅ is NH ₂	3-deazaneplanocin A
	ОН	ОН	ОН	(i) wherein R ₂₅ is NH ₂	neplanocin A
20	ОН	ОН	ОН	(iii) wherein R ₂₆ is	cyclopentenylcytidine (CPE-C)

The mycophenolic acid compounds may have the following structure (XII):

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(XII)

wherein

R₄ is OR₆ or -N(R₇) R₈ in which R₆, R₇ and R₈ are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and C₁-C₆ alkyl, and R₅ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, phenyl and C₁-C₆ alkyl unsubstituted or substituted by a fiveor six-membered saturated or unsaturated heterocyclic ring.

Preferred compounds of formula (XII) include those in which R₄ is hydroxy or NH₂. When one or more of R₅, R₆, R₇ and R₈ is a C₁-C₆ alkyl group, preferably it is a C₁-C₄ alkyl group such as methyl or ethyl. The five- or six-membered saturated or unsaturated heterocyclic ring generally contains one, two or three N-atoms and optionally an O- and/or S-atom. Suitable such rings include pyridino, piperidino, pyrrolo, pyrrolidono and morpholino rings. A N-morpholino ring may thus be present.

Mycophenolic acid compounds suitable for use in the invention in combination with an inhibitor of dihydroorotate dehydrogenase include mycophenolic acid,

15 mycophenolate mofetil which is the morpholinoethyl ester of mycophenolic acid, and the individual mycophenolic acid derivatives described in US-A-5380879. The contents of US-A-5380879 are incorporated herein by reference.

Therapeutic uses

20 The dihydroorotate dehydrogenase inhibitors are used to treat flavivirus,

rhabdovirus and paramyxovirus infections, particularly in humans. The infection may be acute or chronic. The flavivirus may be yellow fever virus, kunjin virus, West Nile virus, dengue virus, a hepatitis virus such as hepatitis C virus, or an encephalitis virus such as St. Louis encephalitis virus, Japanese encephalitis virus, Murray valley encephalitis virus and tick-borne encephalitis virus. The rhabdovirus may be vesicular stomatis virus or rabies virus. The paramyxovirus may be respiratory syncytial virus (RSV).

A therapeutically effective amount of an inhibitor of dihydroorotate dehydrogenase is administered to a subject to be treated. The condition of the subject to can thus be improved. The infection may be cleared from the subject entirely.

The inhibitor can be administered in a variety of dosage forms, for example orally such as in the form of tablets, capsules, sugar- or film-coated tablets, liquid solutions or suspensions or parenterally, for example intramuscularly, intravenously or subcutaneously. It may therefore be given by injection or infusion.

The mode of administration and dosage regimen of the inhibitor depends on a variety of factors including the particular inhibitor concerned, the age, weight and condition of the patient and the nature of the viral infection. Typically, however, the dosage adopted for each route of administration for humans, for example adult humans, is 0.001 to 30 mg/kg, most commonly in the range of 0.01 to 5 mg/kg, body weight. Such a dosage may be given, for example, daily. The dosage may be given orally or by bolus infusion, infusion over several hours and/or repeated administration.

An interferon may also be administered to the subject under treatment. The inhibitor of dihydroorotate dehydrogenase and the interferon may be given simultaneously. Alternatively they may be given up to five days from each other, for example up to two days apart or up to one day apart or up to four hours apart. The relative timing of the administration of the inhibitor and the interferon may be determined by monitoring their respective serum levels. The interferon may be given before the inhibitor of dihydroorotate dehydrogenase, or vice versa.

The interferon may be administered in various ways such as orally,

30 intravenously, intramuscularly, intraperitoneally, intranasally, intradermally, and

subcutaneously. The particular mode of administration and dosage regimen will be

selected by the attending physician taking into account a number of factors including the age, weight and condition of the patient, the nature of the viral infection, the dihydroorotate dehydrogenase inhibitor with which it is being administered and, as required, the need to obtain a synergistic effect.

5 An inhibitor of a second enzyme selected from inosine monophosphate dehydrogenase, guanosine monophosphate synthetase, cytidine triphosphate synthetase and S-adenosylhomocysteine hydrolase may be administered to the subject under treatment in addition to the inhibitor of dihydroorotate dehydrogenase, either in addition to or instead of the interferon. Suitable dosages and formulations of the 10 inhibitor of the said second enzyme are described in WO 00/50064 mentioned above.

Separate formulations of the inhibitor of dihydrogrotate dehydrogenase on the one hand and of the inhibitor of the said second enzyme and/or the interferon on the other hand will generally be given to a patient. A single formulation containing each component can however be administered if the dihydrogrotate dehydrogenase 15 inhibitor and the inhibitor of the said second enzyme and/or the interferon are stable in each other's presence and do not otherwise interfere with each other.

The pharmaceutical compositions that contain the interferon as an active principal will normally be formulated with an appropriate pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent depending upon the particular mode of administration being used. 20 For instance, parenteral formulations are usually injectable fluids that use pharmaceutically and physiologically acceptable fluids such as physiological saline, balanced salt solutions, or the like as a vehicle which may contain physiologically acceptable amounts of organic diluents such as DMSO. Oral formulations, on the other hand, may be solids, e.g. tablets or capsules, or liquid solutions or suspensions.

The inhibitor of dihydroorotate dehydrogenase and the interferon, or the inhibitor of dihydrogrotate dehydrogenase and the inhibitor of the said second enzyme are typically administered in such amounts that a synergistic effect is obtained. Lower doses of the two inhibitors and of interferon can be used, which results in a costsaving and a reduction or elimination of side effects that might occur at higher doses. 30 The interferon will usually be formulated as a unit dosage form that contains from 104 to 10°, more usually 10° to 107, IU per dose. Typically from 3 x 10° to 36 x 10° IU of

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interferon is administered per day, particularly by injection such as intravenously or subcutaneously. The dosage may be administered daily, for example for up to five or up to twenty weeks.

5 The following Examples illustrate the invention.

Example 1

Test compounds were weighed and freshly dissolved in dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO). Stock solutions of each chemical in DMSO were kept at 4° C or for longer storage at minus 80° C. The stock solutions were diluted in regular medium such that the concentrations of each chemical ranged down from 100 µM as they were serially diluted two times to nM concentrations.

Human liver (HuH7) cells, human primary fibroblasts (MRC5) and transformed monkey cells (Vero) cultured in 96 well microtitre plates were each 15 grown to near confluency in regular medium. The media was removed and each well of cells was re-incubated with 0.1 ml. of regular medium containing 1 to 2% of fetal calf serum, different concentrations of each of the chemical compounds dissolved in regular medium and an amount of each of the viruses listed in Tables 1 and 2. The controls consisted of cell controls (cells treated with chemical compounds but not with 20 virus) as well as viral controls (cells treated only with virus but not with chemicals). Nearly all the cells (90 - 100%) in the viral control were in fact killed by the viral challenge after several days of incubation with the virus at 37°C (1 to 2 days for VSV, 5 to 6 days for yellow fever virus and 7 to 8 days for dengue fever and kunjin viruses). Cell toxicity was assessed by gross morphological changes, cell lysis and/or 25 cell cytopathic effects as monitored with the aid of a microscope 1 to 2, 5 to 6 or 7 to 8 days (to correspond to the number of days, respectively, required for VSV, yellow fever or dengue and kunjin virus to kill the cells) after the cells had been concurrently treated with a given concentration of each compound and the virus.

The results are shown in Tables 1 and 2. The antiviral activity of a compound
30 is indicated by its ED₅₀ value which is the concentration of test compound that confers
a 50% protection against a 100 TCID₅₀ challenge dose of yellow fever virus, dengue

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virus or kunjin virus or RSV, or against a challenge virus of vesicular stomatitis virus at an multiciplicity of infection (M.O.I.) of 2.0.

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Table 1: Antiviral Activities of Test Compounds

	Test compound	ED ₅₀ (μM)	Virus Challenge (TCID ₅₀)	Cell Type	Selectivity Index^
5	BNID	1.25 1.05 1.25 1.15 1.15 0.64	yellow fever kunjin dengue yellow fever kunjin VSV	Vero Vero Vero HuH7 HuH7 HuH7	ND
	Brequinar	0.02 0.02 0.02 0.05 0.03 0.03	yellow fever kunjin dengue virus yellow fever yellow fever kunjin VSV	Vero Vero Vero HuH7 HuH7 HuH7 HuH7	2667 60* 2095**
	Dichloroallyl lawsone	0.90 1.10 0.78 0.49	yellow fever yellow fever kunjin VSV	Vero HuH7 HuH7 HuH7	ND
	Redoxal	0.25 0.39 0.39 0.63 0.52 0.63	yellow fever kunjin dengue yellow fever kunjin VSV	Vero Vero Vero HuH7 HuH7 HuH7	ND
10	Ribavirin	205 309 320 34 60 120 250	yellow fever kunjin dengue yellow fever kunjin VSV VSV	Vero Vero Vero HuH7 HuH7 MRC5 HuH7	36 70

A Selectivity index (SI) is estimated by the ratio of the cytotoxic dose over $\mathrm{ED}_{50}.$

^{15 *} SI @ 5 days

^{**} SI @ 2 days

ND Not determined

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Table 2: Antiviral activities of Test compounds

				E	:D50 μM				
	Compound	Mol Wt	VSV MRC5	VSV HuH7	YFV HuH7	KUN HuH7	YFV VERO	DEN VERO	RSV VERO
5	Brequinar	375	NA	0.08	0.03	0.04	0.02	0.04	0.02
	I3K5	343	NA	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.2	0.1	0.02
	I3K55	357	NA	NA	0.1	0.08	0.1	0.2	
	I3K46	349	NA	NA	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.5	
	I3K52	359	100	NA	0.3	0.2	1.7	NA	
10	I3K53	403		NA	0.4	0.7	0.7	12.4	
	I1K52	341	NA	NA	0.5	0.5	3.7	7.3	
	I1K46	331	NA		1	0.8	3.8	3.8	
	I1K53	385		NA	1	0.9	3.2	6.5	
	I1K55	339	168	1.9	0.5	0.2			
15	I2K5	409	NA	NA	1.7	2	0.8	0.8	
	I3K4	367	NA	NA	2.1	3.4	0.9	0.9	
	I3K36	335	NA	NA	3	3.6	1.9	3.7	
	I2K46	349	NA	NA	5.1	6.3	NA	NA	
	I2K52	425	NA	NA	11.3	9.6	NA	NA	
20	I2K55	423			6.1	5.8	11.8	11.8	
	12K51	483	NA	NA	NA		1.3	2.6	
	I3K51	417	74		3.1	2.4	6	23.9	
	I3K44	307			10.7	15.5	32.4		
	I3K6	317			15	13.2	7.9		
25	I2K42	389				27,7			
	I2K43	363			102.9	46.5			
	I3K42	323				53			
	12K20	353				110.7			

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I3K43	297		100.9	85.1		
I1K44	289			133.9		

5 Example 2

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Vero cells and HuH7 cells were grown to about 99% confluency in 96 microwells with minimum essential medium (MEM) containing 10% fetal calf serum.

Growth medium was removed from the microwells and incubated with one of the 10 following:-

- (1) 100μl of interferon α8 containing either 6, 3, 0.6, 0.3, 0.06, or 0.03 IU of interferon (Reference to Gb 23-902-531, NIH standard, distributed by the Natl. Inst. Allergy and Infectious Diseases, NIH, USA) per ml of MEM containing 2.5 mg/ml human serum albumin.
- (2) 100µl of interferon α2 containing either 6, 3, 0.6, 0.3, 0.06 or 0.03 IU of interferon (Reference to MRC 69/19 as well as Gb-23-902-531 standards) per ml of MEM containing 2.5 mg/ml human serum albumin.
- 20 (3) 100μl of interferon β containing 60, 30, 6, 3 or 0.6 IU of interferon (Reference to Gb23-902-531 standard) per ml of MEM containing 2.5 mg/ml human serum albumin.

The experiment was done in quadruplicates or duplicates. After the addition of interferon to the Vero cells in the microwells, 100µl of a viral challenge consisting of 100 TCLD₅₀ yellow fever virus, kunjin virus, dengue virus or VSV was added immediately to each of the microwells. Different concentrations of test compound were included in the viral challenge as well. In the case where no test compound was used (i.e. the viral control), only 100µl of the viral challenge was added to the wells in 100 µl of MEM containing 2.5 mg/ml human serum albumin. The test compound was Brequinar.

In the control cells treated with test compound alone, 100 ul of MEM

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containing 2.5 mg/ml human serum albumin instead of interferon was added to the cells followed by an addition of another 100 µl of MEM/human serum albumin (2.5 mg/ml) containing test compound. The cells were examined for virus-induced cytopathic effects on days 1 to 2, 5 to 6 or 7 to 8 (to correspond to the number of days, 5 respectively, required for VSV, yellow fever or dengue and kunjin virus to kill the cells) for the antiviral activities of interferon or of the test compound. The results are shown in Table 3.

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Table 3: Enhancement of Antiviral Effect of Interferon by Test Compound

	Test Compound	μM of Test Compound	Type of Human Interferon	Challenge Virus	Cell Type	Fold enhancement
5	Brequinar	0.04 0.04 0.04 0.10 0.10 0.10 0.10 0.10	α8 α2 β α8 α2 β α2 β β β β	yellow fever yellow fever yellow fever yellow fever yellow fever yellow fever dengue kunjin yellow fever VSV	Vero Vero Vero Vero Vero Vero HuH7 HuH7 HuH7	3 10 5 15 20 20 10 4.5 4.5 266
	BNID	1.2 1.2 1.2 1.2	α8 α2 β	yellow fever yellow fever yellow fever kunjin	Vero Vero Vero Vero	10 5 5 6
	I2K5	0.161	α2	yellow fever	Vero	3
	13K5	0.114 0.114 0.114 0.160 0.160 0.160 0.224 0.224 0.297 0.297 0.417 0.417 0.417 0.417	α2 α8 β α2 α8 β α2 β α2 β α2 β α2 α8 β	yellow fever yellow fever yellow fever yellow fever yellow fever yellow fever yellow fever yellow fever yellow fever Dengue Dengue Dengue Dengue Dengue Dengue Dengue	Vero Vero Vero Vero Vero Vero Vero Vero	3 3 3 10 3 3 10 10 33 10 3 3 3 10 3 3 3 3

Example 3: Preparation of novel compounds of formula IIa

A mixture of the trifluoromethoxy-substituted isatin of formula (IX) defined above (0.3mmol) and potassium hydroxide (1.8mmol in 1ml of water) was heated at

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125°C in ethanol (2mL) for 2 hours. A ketone of formula (X) as defined above in which R²², R³³, R⁴⁴ and R⁵⁵ are all hydrogen (0.6mmol in 1mL ethanol) was added and the mixture was refluxed further for 12 hours.

The mixture was cooled and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue 5 was taken up in water (25mL) and extracted with diethyl ether (2 x 20mL). The aqueous layer was acidified with glacial acetic acid until precipitation occurred. The resulting precipitate of 2-(4-biphenylyl)-6-trifluoromethoxy-quinoline-4-carboxylic acid (compound I2K5) was filtered, washed thoroughly and dried in high vacuum for 2 days.

- 10 Characterising data for the compound are as follows:

 NMR: (Acetone-d6, 400 MHz)) 8:7.42-7.54 (m,3H), 7.76-7.79 (m, 3H), 7.88(d, J = 8.44 Hz, 2H), 8.30 (d, J = 9.16 Hz, 1H), 8.44-8.47 (m, 2H), 8.76 (s, 1H), 8.94 (s, 1H).

 C₂₁H₁₄F₃NO₂ calcd. 409.1; found 410.1 (M+H)*.
- By the method described above, using the appropriately substituted ketone of formula (X), the following compounds were prepared:
- 2-(4-biphenylyl)-3-methyl-6-trifluoromethoxy-quinoline-4-carboxylic acid (I2K.55);
 NMR:(Acetone-d6, 400 MHz) δ: 2.44 (s, 3H), 7.49 (t, *J* = 7.31 Hz, 1H) (t, *J* = 7.59

 20 Hz, 2H), 7.62 (d, *J* = 8.57 Hz, 1H), 7.72-7.82 (m, 6H), 7.92 (s, 1H), 8.09 (d, *J* = 9.16 Hz, 1H). C₂₄H₁₆F₁NO₃ calcd. 423.1; found 424.1 (M+H)*.
- 2-(4-cyclohexylphenyl)-6-trifluoromethoxy-quinoline-4-carboylic acid (12K46);
 NMR:(Acetone-d6, 400 MHz) δ:1.29-1.34 (m, 1H), 1.42-1.58 (m, 4H), 1.75-1.78 (m,
 1H), 1.85-1.96 (m, 4H), 2.62-2.68 (m, 1H), 7.46 (d, J = 8.20 Hz, 2H), 7.78 (d, J=9.16 Hz, 1H), 8.28-8.31 (m, 3H), 8.69 (s, 1H), 8.91 (s,1H). C₂₃H₂₀F₃NO₃ calcd. 415.1;
 found 416.1 (M+H)*.
- 2-(4-benzyloxy-2-methoxy-3-methyl-phenyl)-6-trifluoromethoxy-quinoline-4-30 carboxylic acid (12K51); NMR: (Acetone-d6, 400 MHz) 8: 2.29 (s, 3H), 3.58 (s, 3H), 5.27 (s, 2H), 7.07 (d, *J* =

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8.64 Hz,1H), 7.35 (t, J = 7.23 Hz, 1H), 7.43 (t, J = 7.48 Hz, 2H), 7.55 (d, J = 7.39 Hz, 1H), 7.77 (d, J = 8.82 Hz, 1H), 7.87 (d, J = 8.73Hz, 2H), 7.77 (d, J = 8.82 Hz, 1H), 7.87 (d, J = 8.65 Hz, 1H), 8.27 (d, J = 9.15 Hz, 1H), 8.79 (s, 1H, 8.96 (s, 1H), $C_{26}H_{20}F_3NO_5$ calcd. 483.1; found 484.1 (M+H)*; and

5

2-(4-phenoxyphenyl)-6-trifluoromethoxy-quinoline-4-carboxylic acid (I2K52); NMR: (Acetone-d6, 400 MHz) δ : 7.12-7.21 (m, 5H), 7.43 - 7.47 (m, 2H), 7.78 (d, J = 9.20 Hz, 1H), 8.27 (d, J = 9.22 Hz, 1H), 8.39 (d, J = 8.89 Hz, 2H), 8.68 (s, 1H), 8.92 (s, 1H). $C_{22}H_{14}F_{3}NO_{4}$ calcd. 425.1: found 426.1 (M+H)*.

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CLAIMS

- Use of an inhibitor of dihydroorotate dehydrogenase in the manufacture
 of a medicament for use in the treatment of an infection attributable to a virus of the
 Flaviridae, Rhabdoviridae or Paramyxoviridae family.
 - Use according to claim 1, wherein the inhibitor is a compound of the formula (1):

$$A = \underbrace{\frac{a}{a}}_{N} \underbrace{\frac{b}{b}}_{R}$$
 (I)

wherein:

each A is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen,

10 perhaloalkoxy, amino C₁-C₈ alkyl, NO₂, CN, SO₂CH₃, C₁-C₈ alkyl, C₁-C₈ alkoxy, C₃
C₇ cycloalkyl, C₃-C₇ cycloalkenyl, aryl, aryloxy, C₁-C₆ perhaloalkyl and Y; or

two adjacent groups A on ring <u>b</u> form, together with the phenyl ring to which they are

attached, a naphthalene ring system;

R is cyclohexyl, phenoxy or benzoxy, or a phenyl ring which is unsubstituted or 15 substituted by a group A as defined above; or

R and an adjacent group A on ring \underline{b} form, together with the phenyl ring to which they are attached, a naphthalene or phenanthrene ring system;

Y is selected from the group consisting of COOM, CONHR', SO₃M and hydrogen; M is selected from the group consisting of H, Li, Na, K and O.5 Ca;

20 R' is C₁-C₁₀ alkyl;

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n is 1 or 2; and

T is =N- or =C(Z)- wherein either:

- (i) Z is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, NH₂, OH, C₁-C₈ alkyl, C₃-C₇ cycloalkyl, aryl and C₁-C₆ perhaloalkyl, or
- 5 (ii) Z is a bridging moiety selected from the group consisting of -V-W-(wherein V is CH₂, or S and W is CH₂, O, S or NH) and -(CH₂)₂ -C(=Z)- wherein Z is O or H₂, the said bridging moiety being attached to the ortho position of ring b of the adjacent biphenyl group, thereby completing a ring.
- 3. Use according to claim 2, wherein the inhibitor is a compound of 10 formula (Ia):

$$A = \underbrace{\frac{a}{a}}_{N} \underbrace{\frac{b}{b}}_{A}$$
 (la)

20

15

wherein:

each A is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen, amino C₁.C₈ alkyl, NO₂, CN, SO₂CH₃, C₁-C₈ alkyl, C₃-C₇ cycloalkyl, aryl, C₁-C₆ 25 perhaloalkyl and Y;

Y is selected from the group consisting of COOM, CONHR' SO₃M and hydrogen; M is selected from the group consisting of H, Li, Na, K and O.5 Ca; R' is C₁-C₁₀ alkyl; and

T is =N- or =C(Z)- wherein either:

(i) Z is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, NH₂, OH, C₁-C₈ alkyl, C₂-C₇ cycloalkyl, aryl and C₁-C₈ perhaloalkyl, or

(ii) Z is a bridging moiety selected from the group consisting of -V-W-(wherein V is CH_2 or S and W is CH_2 , O, S or NH) and $-(CH_2)_2 - C(=Z)$ - wherein Z is O or H_2 , the said bridging moiety being attached to the ortho position of ring \underline{b} of the adjacent biphenyl group, thereby completing a ring.

 Use according to claim 2 or 3 wherein the inhibitor is a compound of the formula (II):

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
R & & \\
\hline
\underline{a} & & \\
N & & \\
\hline
\underline{b} & & \\
R^5
\end{array}$$
(II)

15

10

wherein

R1 is H, a halogen or OCF3;

R2 is H or C1-C6 alkyl;

R3 is H or OR6 wherein R6 is H or C1-C6 alkyl;

- 20 R^4 is H or C_1 - C_6 alkyl; or R^4 and R^3 form, together with phenyl ring \underline{b} to which they are attached, a naphthalene ring; and
 - R^3 is cyclohexyl, phenyl or benzoxy, or a phenyl ring which is unsubstituted or substituted by halogen; or R^4 and R^3 form, together with phenyl ring \underline{b} to which they are attached, a phenanthrene ring.
- 25 5. Use according to any one of claims 2 to 4 wherein the inhibitor is a compound of formula (IIb):

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10 wherein M is H or Na.

 Use according to claim 1 wherein the inhibitor is a compound of formula (I'):

 $A = \bigvee_{N = R'}^{Y} R'$ (I')

wherein A and Y are as defined above for formula (I);

15 R' is hydrogen and R" is a thiophene ring or a group of formula (i') or (ii'):

or R' and R" form, together with the carbon atoms (denoted "C") to which they are attached, a ring system of formula (iii') or (iv'):

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10 wherein R"' is H or halogen and R' is H or C₁ - C₆ alkoxy.

 Use according to claim 1, wherein the inhibitor is a compound of the formula (III):

15
$$A^{1}$$
 $\underline{\underline{a}}$ N $\underline{\underline{b}}$ A^{1} (III)

20

30

5

wherein:

each A¹ is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C₁-C₈ alkyl, C₁-C₈ alkoxy, C₂-C₈ alkenyl, C₂-C₈ alkynyl, C₃-C₇ cycloalkyl, halogen, unsubstituted aryl, X-substituted aryl, NO₂, CN, COOR, CONHR and NHR; X is selected from the group consisting of halogen, NO₂, C₁-C₈ alkyl, aryl, fused aryl and COOR;

R is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and C_1 - C_8 alkyl; and B is selected from the group consisting of C_1 - C_8 alkyl, H, CF₃ and aryl which is unsubstituted or substituted by halogen, C_1 - C_8 alkoxy, C_1 - C_8 alkyl, NO₂, aryl or fused aryl.

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8. Use according to claim 7, wherein the inhibitor is a compound having the formula (IV):

 Use according to claim 1, wherein the inhibitor is a compound having the formula (V):

$$A^{2} \xrightarrow{CX^{1}_{2}CX^{1}} Z^{1}$$

$$(V)$$

15

5

10

wherein:

 $A^2 \ is \ selected \ from \ the \ group \ consisting \ of \ hydrogen, \ C_1-C_8 \ alkyl, \ C_2-C_8 \ alkenyl, \ C_2-C_8 \ alkenyl, \ C_3-C_7 \ cycloalkyl, \ halogen, \ unsubstituted \ aryl, \ halogen-substituted \ aryl,$

20 fused aryl, NO₂, CN, NHR¹ and N(R¹)₂;
R¹ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C₁-C₂ alkyl and OH;

X1 is hydrogen or halogen; and

B1, Y1 and Z1 are each independently selected from hydrogen,

OH, C1-C8 alkyl, halogen, CN, NO2 and CF3.

25 10. Use according to claim 1, wherein the inhibitor is a compound having the formula (VI):

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$$\begin{array}{c}
O \\
CH_2CH = C \\
CI
\end{array}$$
OH
$$\begin{array}{c}
CI \\
VI
\end{array}$$

5

11. Use according to claim 1, wherein the inhibitor is a compound having the formula (VII):

$$X^{2} \xrightarrow{A^{3}} B^{2} \xrightarrow{A^{3}} X^{2}$$

$$(VII)$$

10 wherein:

each A^3 is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_1 - C_8 alkyl, C_1 - C_{10} alkoxy, halogen and $N(R^2)_2$;

B2 is a direct bond, -CH=CH- or -C=C-;

X2 is selected from the group consisting of O, S and NR2;

- 15 R² is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C₁-C₄ alkyl and aryl;
 - Y2 is selected from the group consisting of COOM1 and SO3M1; and

M1 is selected from the group consisting of H, Li, Ha, K and 0.5 Ca.

12. Use according to claim 11, wherein the inhibitor is a compound having the formula (VIII):

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- 10 13. Use according to any one of the preceding claims wherein the virus is a flavivirus selected from the group consisting of hepatitis viruses, yellow fever virus, West Nile virus, kunjin virus, dengue virus, St. Louis encephalitis virus, Japanese encephalitis virus, Murray valley encephalitis virus and tick-borne encephalitis virus.
- 15 14. A method according to any one of claims 1 to 13, wherein the virus is a rhabdovirus selected from vesicular stomatitis virus and rabies virus, or is the paramyxovirus RSV.
 - 15. Use according to any one of the preceding claims wherein the medicament is for administration with an interferon.
- 20 16. Use according to any one of the preceding claims wherein the medicament further comprises an interferon.
 - Use according to claim 15 or 16, wherein the interferon is a human interferon.
- 18. Use according to claim 17, wherein the interferon is selected from the 25 group consisting of interferon α2, interferon α8 and interferon β.
 - Use according to claim 18, wherein the interferon is human interferon α8 having a specific activity of from 0.3x10° to 3x10° IU per mg protein.
 - 20. Use according to claim 18, wherein the interferon is human interferon β having a specific activity of from $2x10^8$ to $8x10^8$ per mg protein.
- 30 21. Use according to any one of claims 15 to 20 wherein the inhibitor and the interferon are used in respective amounts which produce a synergistic effect.

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- 22. Use according to any one of the preceding claims wherein the medicament is for use with an inhibitor of a second enzyme selected from inosine monophosphate dehydrogenase, guanosine monophosphate synthetase, cytidine triphosphate synthetase and S-adenosylhomocysteine hydrolase.
- Use according to claim 22 wherein the medicament further comprises
 the inhibitor of the said second enzyme.
 - 24. Use according to claim 22 or 23 wherein the inhibitor is mycophenolic acid, cyclopentenyl cytosine (CPE-C) or 3-deazaneplanocin A.
- 25. Use according to any one of claims 22 to 24 wherein the inhibitor of 10 the second enzyme and the inhibitor of dihydrooratate dehydrogenase are used in respective amounts which produce a synergistic effect.
 - 26. A compound of formula (IIa):

20 wherein

15

M is selected from the group consisting of H, Li, Na, K and 0.5 Ca:

R22 is H or C1-C6 alkyl;

R33 is H or OR6 wherein R6 is H or C1-C4 alkyl:

R44 is H or C1-C6 alkyl; and

25 R⁵⁵ is phenyl, cyclohexyl, phenoxy or benzoxy; or a metabolite or prodrug precursor thereof..

- 27. A compound according to claim 26 which is selected from:
- 2-(4-biphenylyl)-6-trifluoromethoxy-quinoline-4-carboxylic acid (compound I2K5);
- 2-(4-biphenylyl)-3-methyl-6-trifluoromethoxy-quinoline-4-carboxylic acid
- 30 (compound I2K55);
 - 2-(4-cyclohexylphenyl)-6-trifluoromethoxy-quinoline-4-carboxylic acid (compound

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I2K46):

- 2-(4-benzyloxy-2-methoxy-3-methyl-phenyl)-6-trifluoromethoxy-quinoline-4-carboxylic acid (compound 12K51); and
- 2-(4-phenoxyphenyl)-6-trifluoromethoxy-quinoline-4-carboxylic acid (compound 5 12K52).
 - A process for producing a compound of formula (IIa) as claimed in claim 26, which process comprises
 - a) condensing a trifluoromethoxy-substituted isatin compound of the following formula (IX):

10

15 with a ketone of formula (X):

$$R^{22}CH_2$$
 R^{33} R^{44} R^{55} R^{55}

wherein R22, R33, R44 and R55 are as defined in claim 26, in the presence of a base; and

- (b) if desired, converting a resulting compound of formula (IIa) in which M
 20 is H into a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof wherein M is Li, Na, K or 0.5
 Ca.
 - 29. A method of treating a host infected with a virus of the Flaviviridae, Rhaboviridae or Paramyxoviridae family, which method comprises administering to the host an inhibitor of dihydroorotate dehydrogenase.
- 25 30. An anti-flavivirus, anti-rhabdovirus or anti-paramyxovirus agent comprising an inhibitor of dihydroorotate dehydrogenase.
 - 31. Products containing an inhibitor of dihydroorotate dehydrogenase and

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an interferon as a combined preparation for simultaneous, separate or sequential use in treating an infection attributable to a virus of the Flaviviridae, Rhabdoviridae or Paramyxoviridae family.

- 32. Products containing an inhibitor of dihydroorotate dehydrogenase.
 5 and an inhibitor of a second enzyme selected from inosine monophosphate dehydrogenase, guanosine monophosphate synthetase, cytidine triphosphate synthetase and S-adenosylhomocysteine hydrolase as a combined preparation for simultaneous, separate or sequential use in treating an infection attributable to a virus of the Flaviviridae, Rhabdoviridae or Paramyxoviridae family.
- 10 33. Products according to claim 32 which additionally contain an interferon
 - 34. A method for identifying an anti-flavivirus, anti-rhabdovirus or antiparamyxovirus agent, which method comprises:
 - (a) providing a test compound:
- 15 (b) determining whether the test compound has activity as an inhibitor of dihydroorotate dehydrogenase; and
 - selecting the test compound as an anti-flavivirus, anti-rhabdovirus or antiparamyxovirus agent if it is shown to have activity in step (b).

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(54) Title: DIHYDROOROTATE DEHYDROGENASE INHIBITORS FOR THE TREATMENT OF VIRAL-MEDIATED DIS-EASES

(57) Abstract: Flavivirus, rhabdovirus and paramyxovirus infections may be treated by administering an inhibitor of the enzyme dihydroorotate dehydrogenase such as 6-fluoro-2-(2'-fluoro-1,1'-biphenyl-4-yl)-3-methyl-4-quinolinearcarboxylic acid sodium salt (Brequinar). A synergistic effect can be obtained if an interferon such as interferon $\alpha 2$, interferon $\alpha 8$ or interferon β , or an inhibitor of a second enzyme selected from inosine monophosphate dehydrogenase, guanosine monophosphate synthetase, cytidine triphosphate synthetase and S-adenosylhomocysteine hydrolase, is also administered.

N.77877B

Attorney's Doeket No.

RULE 63 (37 C.F.R. § 1.63) DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR PATENT APPLICATION IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

As below named inventor(s), I/we hereby declare that

before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

This declaration is of the following type: supplemental national stage of PCT continuation continuation-in-part My/our residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my/our name. I/we believe I/we am/are the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled: DIHYDROOROTATE DEHYDROGENASE INHIBITORS FOR THE TREATMENT OF VIRAL-MEDIATED DISEASES the specification of which (check one) is attached hereto was filed on in the United States Patent and Trademark Office as Application Serial No. and was amended on was described and claimed in PCT International Application No. PCT/US00/26797 filed on 29 Sep 2000 and as amended under PCT Article 19 on (if any) I/we hereby state that I/we have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above. I/we acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patent ability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56. I/we hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C §119(a)-(d) or § 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or under § 365(a) of any PCT International Application(s) which

designated at least one country other than the United States of America, listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate or PCT International Application having a filing date

COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

PRIOR FOREIGN/PCT APPLICATION(S) AND ANY PRIORITY CLAIMS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §119

Application No.	lication No. Country		Priority Claimed	
Application No.	Country	Filing Date	Yes	No
60/157,017	US	1 Oct 1999	X	
PCT/US00/26797		29 Sep 2000		

I/we hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) of any United States Provisional Application(s) listed below:

UNITED STATES PROVISIONAL APPLICATION(S)

Application No.	Filing Date

I/we hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 120 of any United States Application(s) or § 365(e) of any PCT International Application(s) designating the United States of America, listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States or PCT International Application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112, I/we acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patent ability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national PCT international filing date of this application.

PRIOR UNITED STATES/PCT INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION(S)

Application No.	Filing Date	Status (patented, pending/abandoned
PCT/US00/26797	29 Sep 2000	

And I hereby appoint Nixon & Vanderhye P.C., 1100 North Glebe Road, 8th Floor, Arlington, Virginia 22201-4714, telephone number (703) 816-400 (to whom all communications are to be directed), and the following attorneys thereof (of the same address) individually and collectively my attorneys to prosecute its application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith and with the resulting patent: Arthur R. Crawford, 25327, Larry S. Nixon, 25640; Robert A. Vanderhye, 27076; James T. Hosmer, 30184; Robert W. Faris, 31352; Richard G. Besha, 22770; Mark E. Nusbaum, 22348; Michael J. Keena, 32106; Bryan H. Davidson, 30251; Stanley C. Spooner, 27393; Leonard C. Mitchard, 29009; Duane M. Byers, 33363; Paul J. Henon, 33626; Jeffry H. Nelson, 30481; John R. Lastova, 33149; H. Warren Burnam, Jr., 29366; Thomas E. Byrne, 32205.

I/we hereby declare that all statements made herein of my/our own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C § 1001 and that such willful false statements may jeopardise the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

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